Environmental Quality Incentives Program
DETERMINING POTENTIAL ELIGIBILITY AND RANKING CRITERIA
Statewide AFO/CAFO Resource Concerns (Only Beef, Dairy, or Swine)

The following guide is provided for determining those applications having potential to earn environmental points in EQIP Statewide AFO/CAFO Resource Concerns. It is to be used by USDA personnel in evaluating the resource issues being considered in FY 2004 and where appropriate to aid clients in determining whether their particular resource concern(s) would receive ranking points in this year's evaluation. **Maintain this record with the CCC-1200 and 1201 for documentation of the environmental benefit.**

Applicant:_____Date:_____

Tracts:_____

Assisted by:_____Assisting Agency: NRCS

Offer includes planned treatment involving the production, storage, and application of animal wastes. **New or relocating existing facilities are ineligible**. The following criteria must be met before environmental points can be assigned:

- Applicant must be in compliance with all federal and state regulatory requirements by completion of contract.
- All regulatory permits must be obtained by AFO/CAFO before financial assistance can be provided
- A Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) is required before acceptance and must be implemented within the contract period.
- In the absence of an current waste analysis, all nitrogen and phosphorous (elemental P, not P_2O_5) are measured based on the amounts of nutrients present in the animal waste, as excreted, using the NRCS Agricultural Waste Management Field Manual.
- A current soil analysis must be provided for each field being offered or no points will be awarded for Item 2.
- Application rates and quantities of animal waste are based on the NRCS Agriculture Waste Management Field Manual or annual waste analysis. Resulting treatment must meet NRCS standards.
- All fields in the operating unit in which animal waste applications are being applied or will be applied must be evaluated and treated to quality criteria level for water quality during the EQIP contract period.

1) Water Quality – Nutrient Management - Evaluate all fields in which animal waste is being or will be applied.

	Tons	x Points	÷ Acres	Score
a) Tons/year of animal waste nitrogen, which will be properly applied or managed (tons/year x points ÷ acres).		1.0		
b) Tons/year of animal waste phosphorus (elemental P), which will be properly applied or managed (tons/year x points ÷ acres).		1.0		

2) Water Quality – Weighted Phosphorus Index Rating (severity of loading) - Based on current soil analysis completed within 12 months previous to application (OSU Fact Sheet No. 2207) using a weighted P Index value of all fields that animal waste is being or will be applied. **Score only in one category**

Soil Test P Index (Refer to Oklahoma Phosphorous Assessment Worksheet)	Points	Score
< 65 (Low Rating)	10	
65 -250 (Moderate Rating)	25	
250 -400 (High Rating)	50	
≥ 400 (Very High Rating)	75	
Severe Rating (No application allowed)	100	

3) Water Quality – Surface Water Proximity - Allow points based on the proximity of the offered acreage to the identified stream, wetland, or other water body. Measure from the edge of the field(s) closest to the water feature. **Score all that apply**

Distance ≤ 200 feet to the water feature		Score
a) Perennial stream, lake, or pond	100 points	
b) Seasonal stream or wetland	75 points	
c) Other concentrated flow area	50 points	
Distance > 200 feet but ≤ 500 feet to the water feature		**Score**
a) Perennial stream, lake, or pond	75 points	
b) Seasonal stream or wetland	50 points	
c) Other concentrated flow area	25 points	
Distance > 500 feet but ≤ 1000 feet to the water feature		**Score**
a) Perennial stream, lake, or pond	50 points	
b) Seasonal stream or wetland	25 points	
c) Other concentrated flow area	10 points	
Distance > 1000 feet to the water feature	0 points	

4) Water Quality - Designated Nutrient Limited Watershed (see maps in Section II, FOTG) - Offer includes the planned treatment of all land located within an area designated as a nutrient limited watershed (all land in the operating unit will be treated to the quality criteria to receive these points). 1000 points — Score

5) Water Quality - Nutrient Management – Nutrient Export from Nutrient Limited Watershed - Offer includes the planned treatment of all land located within an area designated as a nutrient limited watershed and provisions are made for export of the animal waste and associated nutrients outside the boundaries of the limited watershed. **Must be scored in Item 4 to score points in this category.** 1000 points — Score

6) Water Quality - Status of AFO (Animal Feeding Operation) - Score only one category		Score
a) Existing AFO - livestock capacity will stay the same or decrease	500 points	
b) Expanding Existing AFO – livestock capacity will increase	100 points	

7) Water Quality - Waste Management System Operation – Score only one category		Score
a) Waste management system will be for current livestock capacity	100 points	
b) Waste management system will be for expanded livestock capacity	50 points	

8) Water Quality – Proximity to Oklahoma's Scenic Rivers (see Oklahoma's Scenic Rivers Map, Section I, FOTG) – AF0/CAFO occurs in watershed that drains directly into an identified Oklahoma scenic river	500 points	Score

9) Water Quality - Conservation Buffers - Planned treatment includes protection of existing perennial &/or intermittent streams from degradation by establishment of new and/or protection of existing conservation buffer practices. Both may be scored in this category. Buffer practices include Contour Buffer Strips (332), Filter Strip (393), Cross Wind Trap Strips (589C), Riparian Forest Buffer (391), Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390), Herbaceous Wind Barriers (422A), Field Border (386), and Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380). Existing buffers must meet a listed practice standard before points may be awarded. **Score all categories that apply**

Establishment and/or protection will be provided within the contract period.	Acres	Vegetative Type	Points	Score
Establishing new buffer practices (includes natural regeneration)		Native Species	50 points	
		Introduced Species	10 points	
Protection of existing buffers		Native Species	25 points	
		Introduced Species	5 points	

10) Water Quality – Carcass and/or Manure Composting - [Composting Facility (317)] - Planned treatment includes implementation of a carcass and/or manure composting facility	500 points	Score

11) Air Quality - Methane Gas Reduction – Implementation of a new system only [Anaerobic Digester – Ambient Temperature (365) and Waste Facility Cover (367)] **Score only one category**		Score
a) Manure collection with cover and energy recapture system	100 points	
b) Manure collection with cover and flare system	50 points	

12) Air Quality – Proximity to Population Centers - Proximity to nearest population center as measured from the edge of the facility in a straight line to boundary of incorporated city/town limits. **Score points in only one category**

Distance upwind (prevailing wind direction – from S to N) of AFO from population center	Population			Score
	≤ 10,000	10,001 to 50,000	> 50,000	
≤ ½ mile	300 points	400 points	500 points	
>1/2 mile to 1 mile	100 points	200 points	300 points	
> 1 mile	0 points	0 points	0 points	

13) Air Quality – Carbon Retention – Consider planned predominant treatment. **Score only one category**		Score
a) Slurry system (solids and liquids combined) – land applied, injection	100 points	
b) Solid store (solids and liquids separated) – land applied, incorporated	50 points	
c) Slurry system (solids and liquids combined) – land applied, broadcast, not incorporated	25 points	
d) Solid store (solids and liquids separated) – land applied, broadcast, not incorporated	10 points	
e) Waste Treatment Lagoon (359)	5 points	

14) Economic Criteria (combined total cost of treatment per planned animal unit). Includes the total estimated **actual** cost of implementing **ALL** planned practices, exclusive of cost-share. **Score only one category**		Score
$20 or less per animal unit	100 points	
$20-$40 per animal unit	90 points	
$40-$60 per animal unit	80 points	
$60-$80 per animal unit	70 points	
$80-$100 per animal unit	60 points	
$100-$120 per animal unit	50 points	
$120-$140 per animal unit	40 points	
$140-$160 per animal unit	30 points	
$160-$180 per animal unit	20 points	
$180-$200 per animal unit	10 points	
More than $200 per animal unit	0 points	

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____ **Total Score** _____

GUIDANCE FOR RANKING EQIP AFO/CAFO APPLICATIONS

Criterion is for evaluation of applications for treatment of existing Beef, Dairy, or Swine AFO/CAFO facilities. **New, relocating existing, and Poultry facilities are ineligible**. The following guidance should be used for evaluating all AFO/CAFO EQIP applications:

RESOURCE CONCERN EVALUATION CRITERIA

1) Water Quality – Nutrient Management
   Use the NRCS Agricultural Waste Management Field Manual (AWMFM) or current manure analysis to establish the total amount of nitrogen and phosphorous (elemental P) in tons/year that will be produced based on the anticipated number of animals/livestock. Multiply the total tons/year of the nutrient produced, multiply it by 1 (1 point per ton per year), then divide it by the total acres that the animal waste nutrients are being or will be applied to arrive at the score for items 1a and 1b. A score should be registered in both sub-categories.

2) Water Quality – Weighted Phosphorous Index Rating (P Index)
   A current soil analysis (obtained no earlier than 12 months prior to evaluating the application) for all fields that animal waste is being, or will be applied, is required to score under this criteria. A weighted P Index value will be obtained by multiplying the field P Index by the number of the acres in the field and for each field evaluated, adding all field values together, and then dividing by the total number of acres that animal waste will be applied. Score only in one category. An Oklahoma Phosphorous Assessment Worksheet is required for all planned animal waste applications.

3) Water Quality – Surface Water Proximity
   Determine the closest distance to the nearest downstream water feature (perennial stream, lake, pond, season stream, wetland, or other concentrated flow area) and record the score for all sub-categories that apply. For evaluation purposes, a perennial or seasonal stream will be defined the same as is considered in the Continuous Signup Conservation Reserve Program (CCRP). A lake will be named as such on local maps or soil survey. Wetlands may be delineated, certified, or locally determined to meet the required hydrologic and vegetative requirements. Other concentrated flow areas are defined channel that otherwise do not meet either the perennial or season stream definition. Score all features, by type, that occur within 1000 feet downstream of offered acreage. Score only once for each water feature type by sub-category even if more than one feature of a similar type occurs within the same distance.

   Example: Separate wetland areas occurring at 150 feet, 333 feet, and 868 feet would be scored 75 points in the 3)b) ≤200 feet; 50 points in the 3)b) >200 feet but ≤500 feet; and 25 points in the 3)b) >500 feet but ≤1000 feet sub categories.

4) Water Quality – Designated Nutrient Limited Watershed
   Utilize the Oklahoma Nutrient Limited Waters (NLW) maps found in Section 1, Maps, of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) to determine if the application resides in one of the twelve (12) delineated limited watersheds to score points in this category. A majority of the offered acres must reside in the watershed to be eligible for the points.

5) Water Quality – Nutrient Management – Nutrient Export from Nutrient Limited Watershed
   In order to score points in this category, the offered acreage must occur in a Nutrient Limited Watershed with assurance that all animal waste produced will be transported outside the NLW boundaries. Must score points in Item 4 to obtain points in this category.

6) Water Quality – Status of AFO
   Determine if the offer will include an existing, expanding, or new AFO with an anticipated increase, decrease, or maintenance of planned livestock numbers and score accordingly. Points will be scored in only one category.

7) Water Quality – Waste Management System Operation
Evaluate the status of the planned or existing waste management system and determine if it will be for current or expanded livestock capacity or for a new AFO and score points accordingly. Score points in only one category.

8) Water Quality – Proximity to Oklahoma's Scenic Rivers
Utilize the Oklahoma's Scenic Rivers map located in Section 1 of the FOTG to determine if the application resides within the direct drainage of the identified streams. A majority of the offered acres must reside in the watershed to be eligible for the points.

9) Water Quality – Conservation Buffers
Offers including the intent to establish new or protect existing conservation buffers (see list of eligible practices) according to the appropriate standard(s) will be scored accordingly. Priority is given to native species and points may be scored for all buffer types and acres with planned implementation or protection.

10) Water Quality – Carcass and/or Manure Composting
Only offers including planned implementation (existing facilities ineligible, unless determined inadequate and will be replaced) of a carcass and/or manure composting facility [refer to the Composting Facility (317) standard and specification] may score these points.

11) Air Quality – Methane Gas Reduction
Only offers including planned implementation of an anaerobic digester with cover [refer to the Anaerobic Digester – Ambient Temperature (365) and Waste Facility Cover (367) standards and specifications) will be eligible to score points in this category. Determine the planned system type (energy recapture or flare system) and score points accordingly. Score only in one category.

12) Air Quality – Proximity to Population Centers
Determine distance from closest population center downwind (north) of the facility and score accordingly. Measure the distance from the nearest edge of the offered acreage in a straight line to the boundary of the incorporated city/town limits. Score only in one category.

13) Air Quality – Carbon Retention
Evaluate the planned treatment and application of animal wastes (slurry, solids, or lagoon) and score accordingly. Score only in one category based on the predominant treatment/application type.

14) Economic Criteria
Evaluate the **total** cost of implementing **all** planned practices (exclusive of management practices) and divide by the anticipated number of livestock then score accordingly. Score only in one category.